



# Tech Info Library

## Peek, LTPeek, and Poke: Unsupported Internal Network Utilities

Revised: 6/29/90  
Security: Everyone

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This article last reviewed: 12 March 1990

TOPIC -----

Is there any documentation available for the "LTPeek" and "Poke" programs? I am using the software to learn more about supporting AppleTalk Internets and was wondering if there is any documentation available.

Also, what are the most up-to-date versions of these programs? Is there an "LTPeek" that supports AppleTalk Phase 2 networks yet?

DISCUSSION -----

There is no official documentation available for Peek or Poke. These programs have never been sold by Apple and were created as internal network utilities. At one time, they may have been distributed to developers, but they have never been supported for end users. Internally, LTPeek is the name of an Alpha 4.28 version of the Peek software. LTPeek and a similar utility used internally called EPeek or EtherTalk Peek are not public domain products and should not be made available to customers. They have been developed for our own testing and development purposes.

As far as we know, there are no LocalTalk Peek versions that specifically support AppleTalk Phase 2 networks. Peek captures the entire packet from the LLAP header down, so you should not have a problem using it from a LocalTalk cable.

We do not think that Peek and Poke are proper tools for learning to about supporting AppleTalk Internets. (This is analagous to learning to support UNIX by learning to use a debugger.)

A more informative approach for learning to support Internets would be to start with TrafficWatch, CheckNet, LAN Ranger, or other third-party "available and supported" products.

LocalTalk Peek only records and displays network data. If you want to read this data, you must first read "Inside AppleTalk." Poke is very similar. You must have a full understanding of the desired packets before they can be created. Poke requires the actual packet data to be typed into the data window by the user. It provides minimal help in creating a header. It is not designed as an end-user tool; it is a development tool.

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Tech Info Library Article Number:5341